875 **Teachers Training Courses.** Eight students graduated at the end of the school year from the teachers training class for secondary school students. They were posted to village and primary schools. At the beginning of the next term fifteen new students joined the class.

Evening classes for teachers were held during the term with an examination for certificates on the completion of the course.

Special Courses. In March, 1953, for the fourth time, the British Council Representative in Basra arranged a week's English course in Bahrain. This time the course was taken by Mr. W. R. Keight, M.B.E., of the British Council and Mr. W. Hedley, the British teacher lent by the Bahrain Petroleum Company. The aim of the course was to teach masters and students in training for teachers, the correct use of the Oxford University English Course books.

In the summer eleven senior primary school teachers attended a refresher course at the American University of Beirut which was arranged for teachers from Bahrain and other Arab states. They lived in the British Council Hostel and had their meals in the University.

●873 **Higher Education.** Four more boys, who passed out of the Secondary School, went to Beirut University for further education, three of them had scholarships from the Government and one had a scholarship from the Bahrain Petroleum Company. Two students were nominated for scholarships in Baghdad schools, allocated by the Government of Iraq to boys from Bahrain. One of these boys, however, did not take up the scholarship but entered the American University of Beirut at his own expense.

Again some of the Shaikhs and merchants sent their sons, sometimes after finishing only primary education, to schools and colleges abroad, in Beirut, Syria, Egypt and England, in one case a member of the Ruling Family was sent to a University in America. Privately made arrangements for educating young men abroad are not always successful, students who go to Europe, not under the auspices of the Government, seem disinclined to stick to one line of learning, sometimes they wander from one school to another which is an expensive waste of time.

873 177 185 It is very doubtful whether at present the education of Bahrain boys at schools in England is beneficial to them or desirable. A few boys who were at school in England have returned to Bahrain and if they can be taken as typical of the results of a European education then it is clear that the experiment is not usually successful. Parents, who in many cases have never been in Europe, send their sons to English schools with the hope that they will return equipped and eager to help their fathers in their business. The boys return. They have acquired some education, sufficient to make them critical and contemptuous of many things in their own homes and country, they resent having to resume the life which they used to lead and they have no inclination to settle down in Bahrain.

871 The Bahrain schools provide primary education for all and secondary education for a limited number of boys. The standard of education is about on a level with that in similar schools in other states in the Middle East. It is not proposed that higher education should be introduced in Bahrain, this can be obtained in neighbouring Arab countries, particularly at the American University of Beirut where 31 boys from Bahrain are now studying, 16 hold scholarships from the Government, four have scholarships from the Bahrain Petroleum Company and 11 are studying there at their own expense. In addition, the Government has sent six young men to study religion in Mecca and in Iraq.

873 Another 20 Bahrain boys are being educated, at their own expense, in schools and colleges in England and in the Middle East.

658 The policy of the Government is to give scholarships for higher education to boys from Bahrain schools to universities in the Middle East; it does not send boys to schools in England. It does, however, send young men from various government departments to do courses in England in the type of work on which they are employed in Bahrain. These candidates are sent at Government expense or, sometimes, they are granted bursaries by the British Council. This arrangement has produced satisfactory results in the case of men from the Passport Department, Municipalities, Technical School, Electric Department, Public Works Department and State Police. Men who have held positions of some responsibility for some years in Government service are improved by such courses in England and do not return to Bahrain with unsettled minds.

Secondary School. At the end of the year there were 168 boys in the school. At the end of the school year 20 boys graduated; nine became school teachers, seven went to Beirut, Egypt and Iraq for higher education and four either joined their parents in business or obtained employment in Saudi Arabia. 873

A new class with a special teacher, was started with the aim of providing a two years commercial course. The 12 students who joined this class are being taught typewriting, book-keeping and business methods. The course appeared to be very successful and it was decided that a second class, on the same lines should be started next year.

School Hostel. There were 84 boarders in the hostel throughout the year, distributed as follows:— 871

Attending	Secondary School	37
„	Technical School	15
„	Primary Schools	25
„	Teachers Training School	7

Yusuf Shirawi continued temporarily to hold the post of Warden, which he relinquished when he went to the United Kingdom to enter Glasgow University.

Town Primary and Village Schools. In the towns the four primary and three infants schools were full to capacity throughout the year. In Muharraq a new infants school was opened, owing to lack of space in the Muharraq primary school classes of the lower primary stage were opened in two of the infants schools. In Manama it was not possible to take in all the children who were on the waiting list for admission. 872

Consideration is being given to building more primary and infants schools in Manama and Hidd.

In some of the village schools full primary courses were introduced, up to third form standard. In future village schools will provide a six years programme similar to the course in the town schools.

Transport. One of the difficulties in opening more village schools is the matter of transport. Almost all the teachers live in the towns of Manama and Muharraq and even those teachers who came originally from the villages almost invariably move to the towns when they obtain employment as teachers. Local bus services are unorganised and erratic and cannot be depended on. The department has to maintain an expensive transport system for taking teachers to and from schools and for conveying boys to special classes and to games. [487] 872

Medical. A school doctor was appointed, under the supervision of the Senior Medical Officer and a system of medical records has been started. The doctor paid regular visits to all the schools and dealt with minor ailments, other cases were passed by him to the Government hospitals.

The health of boys during the year was satisfactory.

General. During the Spring holiday a group of boys from the school hostel visited Zubara, on the coast of Qatar, where they camped for several days.

Other young boys went into camp at Safra, near Rafaa.

Finance. The amount spent during the year on boys' schools, excluding the cost of building and excluding the Technical School, was Rs. 20,22,500/-. 658 871

The cost of educating one boy at school in Bahrain for a school year, of nine months, was approximately Rs. 400/-.

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